



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
Research Development and Acquisition
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington DC 20350-1000

FEB 23 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DON ACQUISITION WORKFORCE

Subj: ACQUISITION REFORM WEEK 98

During Acquisition Reform Week 98, 4-8 May 1998, the Department of Defense acquisition team will focus on "Leading and Embracing Change: Institutionalizing and Accelerating Acquisition Reform".

The Department of Navy will continue our successful AR stand-down approach, using the tenets of Acquisition Reform to implement AR Week 98. Each and every one of us is responsible and accountable for the success of this week, and the success of Acquisition Reform. At the lowest practicable level, our natural work teams need to focus -- as a team -- on applying acquisition reform initiatives to their programs and projects.

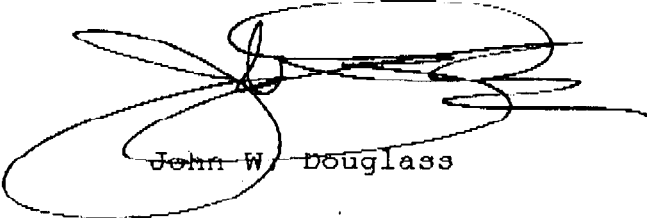
A lot of you have asked what acquisition reform means to me. I think it means rolling up our shirt sleeves and working with our industry partners to figure out what makes good business sense, how we can do it faster, better, cheaper. I hope you'll take advantage of AR Week 98 to do just that, and come up with a plan to keep on doing it.

The Acquisition Reform Office (ARO), the Acquisition Reform Team Working Group (ARTWG), and your Systems Commands are already gearing up to supplement your real-work team efforts with core AR events. A Change Through Ex-Change Conference on 4 May will bring representatives of DON programs at every ACAT level together to ex-change innovative ideas. I will personally host a Virtual Town Hall Meeting on 7 May to provide direct communication between our senior leadership team and our world-wide acquisition workforce.

I am utilizing this opportunity to distribute learning tools that will facilitate continuing implementation of Acquisition Reform throughout the coming year. The National Center for Advanced Technology is developing an interactive training program on IPPD which will be distributed on CD and available over the Internet. The Bellwether Learning Laboratory is partnering with our Acquisition Reform Office to provide an IPT resource guide on CD. This resource guide includes a System Dynamics model that incorporates the lessons our Integrated Product Teams have learned over the last several years. I am also facilitating distribution across the Department of Defense of the new TURBO SPECRIGHT! tool which will assist in writing performance specifications.

You will receive additional information from ARO and your System Commands as the date approaches. I challenge you to embrace AR Week 98 as a catalyst for improving the way we do business.

With warm regards to all



John W. Douglass

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